



THE COUNSEL OF HĀJĪ IMDĀDULLĀH MUHĀJIR MAKKĪ



A translation by:
Sheikh Shazad Khan, As-Suffa Institute

HĀJĪ IMDĀDULLĀH MUHĀJIR MAKKĪ

Sheikh Hāji Imdādullāh Muhājir was a great ascetic and scrupulous scholar. He was a descendant of Umar (Allah be well pleased with him). Born in North India, he migrated to Makkah after the Indian Mutiny in 1857. His counsel is re-produced hereunder in English to benefit one and all.

Allah alone gives success.

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- You, the traveller, should firstly adopt the tenets of faith of *Ablus Sunnah wal Jam'ah*.
- You should learn sacred law so that you can fulfill your obligation to your Lord and other human beings.
- You should follow the Qurān and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad [Allah bless you and give you peace] and his Companions [Allah be well pleased with them].
- You should abandon blameworthy traits. They are, greed [*hirs*], fallacious hope [*tul al-amal*], anger [*ghaḍab*], lying [*kidhb*], backbiting [*ghībah*], stinginess [*bukhl*], envy [*hasad*], ostentation [*riyā*], pride [*kibr*] and rancour [*hiqd*].
- You should adopt the praiseworthy traits. They are, patience [*ṣabr*], gratitude [*shukr*], contentment [*qanā'ah*], knowledge [*ilm*], certitude [*yaqīn*], entrustment to Allah [*tafwīḍ*], reliance on Allah [*tawakkul*], satisfaction with Allah's decree [*riḍā*] and accepting fate [*taslīm*].
- You should be steadfast in following the Sharī'ah and abstain from all unlawfulness [*harām*].
- You should adopt *taqwā* and abstinence.
- You should adopt the *sunnah* at all times and avoid all prohibited and doubtful items.

- If you sin, you should repent immediately, and should compensate the action with good works and penitence. Never should you delay repentance.
- You should perform all five daily prayers with congregation.
- After performing the *fard*, *wājib*, *sunnah* and *nafl* works, you should occupy yourself with what the shaykh has prescribed.
- You should not hanker after excess in litanies but rather concentrate on occupying the heart with Allah’s remembrance and love.
- When you feel pleasure in His remembrance you should be grateful.
- All works should be done solely for divine pleasure.
- You should not seek inspiration [*kashf*] or miracles [*karáma*].
- When you experience expansion [*basṭ*] you should adopt gratitude and be mindful of the boundaries of divine law.
- When you experience constriction [*qabḍ*] you should not despair but continue in ardour.
- You should consider yourself below your works, and regard yourself as blameworthy in their performance.
- You should not disclose the secrets of the esoteric sciences to the unacquainted.

- You should not disclose your own experiences to anyone other than your Shaykh.
- You should shun the world and all that it contains; otherwise a thousand years of spiritual works will be of no avail.
- The heart is a mirror; so protect it from the gleam of other than Him.
- You should constantly seek refuge from the love of prestige and leadership, as it is deception.
- Time is a blessing; use it wisely and do not waste it in forgetfulness, as lost time cannot be compensated.
- You should chivalrously persevere on the path, and detach yourself from the changing of worldly matters.
- Flee from innovators and unorthodox Sufis, even if they perform supernatural acts.
- Intermingle with fellow human beings according to necessity and with good character and humbleness.
- Adopt humility as your necessary character and object to no one.
- Adopt tenderness in your speech and befriend silence and solitude.
- Persevere in your works wholeheartedly.
- Do not let disturbance enter your heart and assign all actions to Allah alone.

- Guard your heart vigorously from the threat of the other.
- Oblige yourself with helping others in matters of religion.
- First rectify your intention and then begin the work.
- Eat moderately; do not exceed so much that you become idle nor so little that you become weak in performing works.
- Adopt moderation in all affairs.
- It is better that you earn your livelihood. Reliance on Allah for sustenance is also permissible provided that you are immune from expectation of created beings.
- Keep your heart pure from attachment to other than Him. Neither fear nor hope from anyone besides Him.
- Yearn for Allah impatiently, longing Him endlessly.
- Be with Allah at all times.
- Be grateful for whatever He bestows you; little or large.
- Do not despair at poverty, but rather consider it your honour that He has privileged you with the station of the prophets and friends of Allah.
- Adopt tenderness and mercy with your colleagues. Pardon their faults and accept their excuses.

- Always abstain from backbiting.
- Overlook the shortcomings of others but not your own.
- Consider everyone better than yourself, and do not quarrel with anyone, even if you are on the truth.
- Your occupation should be serving others and being a host.
- Seek the companionship of the poor and needy, and serve the religious scholars and pious with honour and prestige.
- Consider the existence and absence of things alike.
- Be content with the wealth that you possess.
- Give preference to others over yourself.
- Love hunger and thirst for it is the food of Allah.
- Laugh less and cry more. Fear divine punishment and His disregarding you.
- Remember death profusely, for it cuts ties with other than Him.
- Seek refuge from Hell, for it is the abode of divine separateness. And seek Heaven for it is the abode of divine proximity.
- Account yourself daily after *fajr* and *maghrib* prayers by recollecting the events of the day. Thank Him for the good works performed and seek His forgiveness for all sins committed.

- Adopt truthfulness and eating the lawful as your necessary trait.
- Avoid all gatherings of mere amusement and unlawfulness.
- Abstain from all cultural norms of ignorance.
- Love, hate, befriend and bear enmity, for the sake of Allah.
- Do not harm anyone nor have high expectations from them.
- Forever remain modest and avoid excess verbiage.
- Do not worry excessively and adopt a reformatory attitude.
- Remain obedient to your Lord, pious and dignified.
- The above are the traits of the pious. Do not be deluded if you attain them nor consider yourself as good.
- Visit the graves of the pious and also the general Muslim public. Donate reward of recitation unto them.
- Adopt etiquette and obey your Shaykh for he is the heir of the Prophet [Allah bless him and give him peace].
- Continuously pray for the Shaykhs of the *tariqa* for they are your intermediaries to Allah.

This translation was completed on the 10 January 2006. May Allah accept it and benefit all who read it.

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